

Femmes d'Esprit



Mary, Jen, Monika, Gloria, Kerida, and Dr.Raia
at the NE-NCHC Puerto Rico Conference,
April, 2000

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had to say about
Puerto Rico: pages 4-7

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to the Honors Program:
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Editor's Note



Denise
Abatemarco



Amanda
Cartagena

Dear Femmes Readers!

In this edition, which will be our last this semester, you will find stories and pictures about the NCHC conference which took place in Puerto Rico this year, written by Monika Wargo, Jen Horbal, and Gloria Romero. They had an interesting time in Puerto Rico and I'm sure you will have fun reading about their experiences there!

Also in this Spring 2000 issue of Femmes d'Esprit are the senior good-byes. Yes, it is the end of the Spring semester and that

means we say farewell to our fellow Honors Seniors as they dash off into the real world. Along with the senior good-byes is a excerpt from a talk that Dr. Raia gave at St. Leo's University about time. In the talk, Dr. Raia touched on issues that are extremely relevant to the lives of our soon to be graduating seniors. Please enjoy the advice that Dr. Raia gives, in that it is something for all of us (graduating or not) to think about.

Well, this is the end of a great year at the College of New Rochelle.

Have a Great Summer!

Talk to Us:

Contact us through the mail at this address:

Editors of *Femmes d'Esprit*
The College of New Rochelle
SAS Honors Program
29 Castle Place
New Rochelle, NY 10805

You can call us at: 914-654-2511 (x7451)

More of an e-mail person? Well, we're at:
Femmes_d_Esprit@hotmail.com

Or, check us out online at:
<http://www.cnr.edu/home/Honors>



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Femmes d'Esprit accepts articles from SAS Honors students and faculty. Submissions will be returned upon request. The Editors of *Femmes* reserve the right to edit submissions as they see fit.

NCHC Puerto Rico Conference

Puerto Rico Through the Lens of This Latina Gloria L. Romero

As I sit here, thousands of miles above sea level, I reflect upon the journey I have undergone and realize that a shift has taken place within my consciousness.

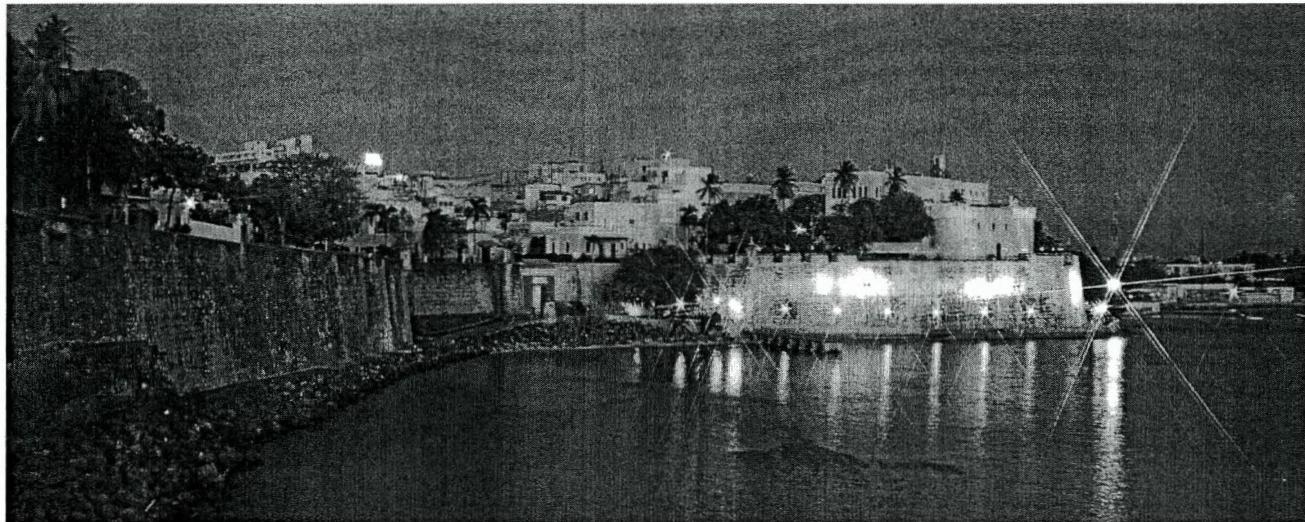
Before visiting the island of Puerto Rico and getting to know its people, I always thought of Puerto Ricans as being the black sheep of Latin America. They were the individuals that shamelessly abused the Spanish language through their mispronunciation, lack of enunciation, and repeated use of Spanglish. They were the "bochinberos," the rowdy and gossipy group that tore down hopes, beliefs, and attitudes with the mere wagging of their tongue. Puerto Ricans were the welfare recipients that always had it too easy, for they were all born with U.S. citizenship, a valuable commodity for many Latin Americans. In my opinion, most of these islanders were all these things rolled into one and then some.

Yet, I still was interested in coming to their land to experience its professed beauty, contagious Salsa and Merengue, appetizing arroz con habichuelas, and warm climate. I cared not about the culture, for I thought to myself: "What

culture? They have none." I was the stereotypical tourist that like a parasite wants to feed off the riches of a foreign land while criticizing everything that makes this land so foreign.

As I began to encounter the average citizens and interact with them while trying to get directions to the tourist hot spots, I began to see the Puerto Rican population in a different light. Sure, many of them did not roll their r's like every self-respecting Spanish speaker, but that all faded into the woodwork as I realized that the importance lay not in the manner of speech, but rather in the content of the conversation. We discussed such things as politics, the economy, the environment, their cultural identity, and life in general. After each conversation, I was struck by how similar they were to my fellow Latin Americans. Although born with the privileges of being a commonwealth nation under the protection of the United States, they shared many of the concerns, passions, and struggles of the Latin American people. Plagued by the danger of cultural extinction and complete Americanization, these two groups are extremely nationalistic. They are proud to claim alliance not to the Motherland of the Age of Discovery, or to the Western Superpowers of today, but rather to the native Indian

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Reflections on Puerto Rico

Monika Wargo

I do not know where to begin in describing my experiences in Puerto Rico at the NCHC Conference—there is so much to tell. For as long as I can remember, I have always wanted to travel—to visit far away lands, and to experience different cultures. To be honest, Puerto Rico was never on my list of places to visit—after all, there are many Puerto Ricans living in the New York area, and they have never seemed to be all that different from me, save for the language difference. However, upon visiting Puerto Rico (although only for a few days), I have found that Puerto Rico has much to offer, and that it does indeed possess a culture that is richer than I could have ever imagined.

So where do I begin to describe my experiences? How about with the music and dance? After all, one cannot think of Puerto Rico without thinking about salsa and merengue. To demonstrate the importance of music and dance in Puerto Rican culture, the organizers of the conference arranged for two evening activities that focused on just that. On one evening, we attended “Puerto Rico at Paseo la Princesa” (a building that used to be a prison). This event traced the roots of Puerto Rican culture through dance. The San Juan Ballet Company executed a variety of dances from those brought by Africans during the days of the slave trade to contemporary dance, such as salsa. Although traffic made

our bus late for the performance, I was very impressed with what I did see—bright and festive costumes, upbeat music, and dancing that was amazingly energetic. The other music and dance activity was “Salsa Night at Paseo de la Puntilla”. This event gave all NCHC participants the opportunity to try salsa dancing for themselves. Without going into details and embarrassing myself, I will just say that I had a great time and am glad to have been given the opportunity to try it.

In addition to music and dance, the landscape of Puerto Rico is quite different from anything I have ever seen, and there is much to be appreciated. Granted, I only saw a small portion of the island, but what I did see were beautiful beaches, palm trees of all sizes, green-colored waters, and, of course, the lush greens of El Yunque, a rainforest. As our hotel, “El Canario by the Sea,” was just “ten steps from the beach,” we made daily trips there—whether we brought bathing suits or not (for those who did not bring bathing suits, we wore shorts and T-shirts). I was pleased with the warmth of the ocean, as I am not used to that in New Jersey.

As for El Yunque, well, that was another world. If someone had told me last semester that my trip to Puerto Rico would include a walk through a rainforest, I would have thought her out of her mind. Ultimately, though, I did find myself in the rainforest where I was able to take a dip in a waterfall, listen to “los coquis,” and walk paths that wound up and down the

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No New Insights on

Jennifer M. Horbal

When I entered the San Cristobal at the Marriot Hotel on Saturday morning for my first conference session, I had high expectations. The session was titled, *The Political Status of Puerto Rico* and there were three scheduled presenters. The honorable Kenneth McClintock, a democrat, was to represent the benefits of statehood for Puerto Rico, Esquire Roberto Pratts, another democrat, was going to represent the benefits of the commonwealth status, and the Honorable Victor Garcia San Inocencio was supposed to discuss the benefits of independence for the island. Unfortunately, Inocencio could not make the presentation and so the audience of about sixty people was only able to hear arguments from the commonwealth and statehood groups. Since I chose to attend this discussion in order to become clearer on the political issues facing the Puerto Rican people and was hoping to form my own opinion about the status of Puerto Rico after going to the discussion, I was rather disappointed that there was not a representative for the independence group. However, the information that was provided by the other two men was intriguing and helpful. Each presenter made an effective presentation and pointed out scenarios and examples for their sides that I was unaware of.

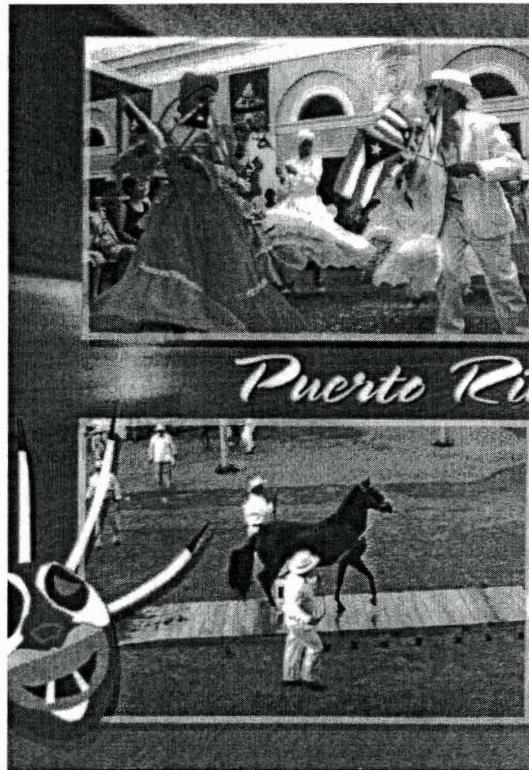
The first to speak was McClintock, who used his time to convince the audience that Puerto Rico should join the Union. He said that in recent years the idea of becoming a state has grown to be four times more popular than it had been in earlier years. McClintock explained his reasoning by using two substantial points. First, he said that prominent leaders of Puerto Rico, such as Luis Munoz Marin, would never have wanted this island to be called an independent nation or an entity to itself. He also said that under the US Constitution, no territory of the United States is supposed to stay as a commonwealth, which is what Puerto Rico is currently,

permanently. Therefore, not only would it be wrong for Puerto Rico to be independent, but it should not stay at the political status it has today either. The only way for Puerto Rico to reap its full benefits, McClintock argued, would be by joining the union as the 51st state.

McClintock stated that the idea of statehood makes perfect sense for those that can remember the draft. He posed this question to the audience:

How could a country like the United States draft men into an army led by a man who those draftees could not even vote? I don't know.

Oftentimes when I think about the political status of Puerto Rico, I feel that the people are being cheated. US culture has invaded the island and seems to run parallel to Puerto Rican culture in tourist spots like San Juan. Yet, for all the benefits from America that are on the island, what do Puerto Ricans really get in return? They get Walgreens, Taco Bell, Pepsi and American tourists. Granted, these things all bring in revenue and multi-culturism, but Puerto Ricans should gain all the privileges of being an America citizen, and not just the side effects from tourism and travel. He ended his presentation by mentioning that commonwealth advocates are running scared



the Statehood Issue

because they know that the idea of statehood is growing on so many people's minds.

Naturally, when Pratts began his speech he contested all of the points that McClintock had made, including the one that commonwealth advocates are running scared. On the contrary, Pratts claimed that if people took the time to visit the "real" Puerto Rico, which is where the conference did not take place, they would see

that most Puerto Ricans do not have any objection to their present situation. He added that most Puerto Ricans have no major interest in being converted into full-blooded Americans- in fact 60% of Puerto Ricans do not even speak English and of the 40% who do, half do so poorly.

Pratts argued that the commonwealth is a reality and

the ideas of both statehood and independence are utopian societies for Puerto Rico. They could only exist after an extended period of struggle for the Puerto Rican people. He also said that over the past 48 or so years three plebiscites have been called on this topic. The statehood group, Pratts said, boycotted the first group. In the second two, which were called by the statehood advocates, they defined what was meant by a commonwealth. Therefore, when it came time

to vote on the political status of Puerto Rico, the majority of people (who would have voted in favor of commonwealth) had to vote for none of the above because commonwealth was defined in a poor way by statehood advocates! Nothing is simpler than politics!

Pratts argued that having a relationship with another country like the United States would not diminish Puerto Rican culture. He pointed out that Puerto Ricans are a proud people who have a strong national identity. Thus, their culture would only be enhanced by contact with another culture and not overwhelmed. With commonwealth status, Puerto Ricans can not only identify with Puerto Ricans but with Americans as well. While Pratts did admit that some improvements need to be made with the present commonwealth status on the island, he reiterated that the best road for Puerto Ricans is the one down the middle.

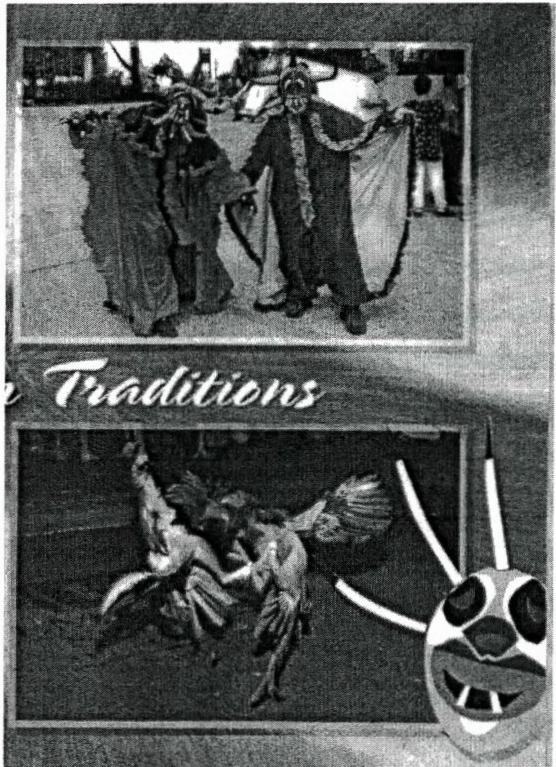
After listening to these presentations, I am still conflicted as to whether Puerto Rico should become a state, be independent, or remain a commonwealth of the United States. Some of the questions that are still unanswered for me include:

—Would the immediate problems that would occur after independence have drastic long-term effects on Puerto Ricans?

—Who is representing the opinions of Puerto Rico-the people or politicians?

—Is San Juan, the capitol of tourism on the island, the right place to hold a conference titled, *The Many Faces of Puerto Rico*?

If anyone has any thoughts on these questions, I would appreciate your comments as an editorial for *Femmes* or contact me and we can discuss the issue further. Maybe then, I, too, can come to a conclusion on what the political status of Puerto Rico should be.



Senior Goodbyes

Have four years really gone by already?

It seems like just yesterday I was walking into the Student Campus Center for the first time to meet with Dr. Raia and the Class of 2000 to plan my first semester schedule. I remember thinking *Will I be able to handle this? Just how smart exactly do I have to be? Is Dr. Raia always this excited?* Over the next four years I discovered the answers to all three questions. Like every other woman, I can handle whatever is given to me! I am smarter than I thought. And yes, Dr. Raia is always that excited.

The Honors Program has given me so much over the past four years. I've had chances to not only dream but to succeed as well. My college experience would have been bland without it. And so now, as I look back at all the good times and bad times, I am thankful for so much. Thank you to all of the people who have enriched my life through the Honors Program. You have all made me a better and stronger person.

- Jen Horbal

Over the past four years, the Honors Program provided me with many lasting memories. I'll never forget orientation and bonding with my sophomore sister. Who could forget making Christmas cookies at Dr. Raia's house? Those cookies were delicious! I'll never forget the "dreaded" Cultural Legacies class that we all



grew to love, the museum trip, houses of worship assignment, and studying all night for the final. I am so happy that I had the chance to attend and present workshops at two NCHC conferences, in Maine and Chicago. I'll never forget the van breaking down in Maine and our overnight stay at Jenna Sunderland's house! The Honors Program has strengthened my communication skills and given me the chance to form many lasting friendships. Thank you, Honors Class of 2000, members of the Honors Program, Honors faculty and Dr. Raia for an unforgettable four years.

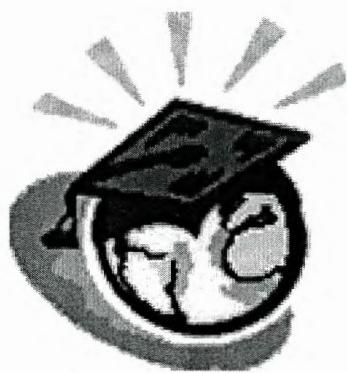
-Kelly Larkin

I never thought this day would come when I would be saying goodbye to CNR. I received a wonderful experience in the Honors Program and I wish that I was able to participate in more activities. I did not make the honor society in high school, so I never thought that in college I would be an honors student. Thank you, Dr. Raia, for believing in me. Thank you, fellow honors students for working with me and sharing your talents. God bless the Honors class of 2000, now and in the future.

-Dawn Phillips

It's hard to believe that I'm writing my senior good-bye—it seems as if it were yesterday that I was just a freshman, sitting in the Honors Center, surrounded by strange faces, waiting for Cultural Legacies to begin. When I joined the Honors Program in the spring semester of my freshman year, I could have never imagined the places that the Honors Program would take me, or the experiences that it would offer me. I have learned so much about the world around me, as well as about myself as a result of these experiences—communication, diversity, setting high goals (and achieving them!), and pushing myself to venture past what I think my limit is. After four years, I am pleased to be able to say that I have no regrets about this portion of my college experience—or, for that matter, about my life in general. This in itself is remarkable, and I do not think that I could have gotten a better education elsewhere. With this, I would like to thank Dr. Raia and my fellow classmates for their continuous support, and wish everyone the best of luck in the future, whatever it may hold!

- Monika Wargo



Senior Achievements



Congratulations to Theresa Llewellyn on her acceptance to the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program at New York University.

Congratulations to Michelle Echevarria on her selection for a funded internship with a prestigious advertising firm in Boston this summer.

Congratulations to Amadika Hospedales on her acceptance into the Physical Therapy Program at New York Medical College.

Good Luck!

Female Solidarity: Myth or Reality?

By Brooke Elise Bushman & Faith Racette

As honors students, we were afforded the honor of working with Dr. McManus, and sharing our experiences at Conference Day. Our independent work focussed on the conflict between two pioneering women classicists, Abby Leach and Grace Harriet Macurdy of Vassar College. Through the guidance of Dr. McManus, we constructed their story into a dramatic reading that we performed at a "Myths We Live By" reading, as well as a classical conference in Princeton.

Brooke portrayed Abby Leach who had the great distinction of being the first woman to be tutored by Harvard Professors. She studied Latin and Greek. These actions were instrumental in forming the Harvard Annex, which later became Radcliffe College. She started to work at Vassar College in 1883 and quickly moved her way up to the head of the Greek department, a position she held for nearly 30 years.

Faith portrayed Grace Macurdy who earned her bachelors degree through the Harvard Annex and began working with Abby Leach at Vassar in 1893. While working at Vassar she obtained her graduate degree at Columbia University. Due to her outgoing personality she found many friends in the classical circle.

In 1908 a conflict arose between the two women in which Abby Leach attempted to get Grace Macurdy fired. Along with Dr. McManus, we read and analyzed their letters written throughout the conflict to James Taylor, President of Vassar College. We organized the letters into a dramatic narrative that we then performed at a "Myths We Live By" presentation. On April 28-29 we attended Princeton University's Classical Association Conference where we had the opportunity to perform our dramatic reading. Afterwards we had a great thirty-minute discussion with the audience. It was very rewarding to hear the audience's reactions, thoughts and views on the Macurdy-Leach conflict, and our interpretation was well received.

During our discussions of these letters, we learned a great deal about the contrasting personalities of these two women. Being able to read their own words allowed us to see these individuals in a way that would not have been possible through second hand information.

We learned of Abby Leach's strong will and her persistence in making everyone agree with her view of what was right. She continually pushed her views upon the President and for so many years tried to get Macurdy fired, even after the continual refusal of the Board of Trustees and of the President. She was bold enough even to accuse the president of bias stating, "I foresee there will be constant difficulties with your attitude and as it is, you have made heavy inroads upon my time and interfered with my plans and purposes. Miss Macurdy has not built up the department since you reappointed her in 1905, without consulting me and I am sorry you could not have punished me without sacrificing the good of the department." Although this shows her narrow-minded nature it also displays her love for work and her dedication to the



Dr. McManus, Brooke Bushman, and Faith Racette

Greek department at Vassar.

We learned Grace Macurdy was also very dedicated to her work. She continually defended her position and valued her time at Vassar. She saw Vassar as a second home, and at one point stated, "I think I need not tell you how much my work in Vassar College has meant to me in all these years. Next to the ties of home there is no place in the world so dear to me." She was well liked and admired for her accomplishments by everyone, but Leach. Columbia's professor of Classics E.D. Perry stated, "I have always regarded Miss Macurdy as one of the best classicists in this country...She is a very quiet person, and never sets off any fireworks or blows her own trumpet, but the thorough training and knowledge are there and she knows how to use them. We are always glad when a student whom she has trained comes to us."

What we found from reading all of the letters is that this whole conflict was fueled by Abby Leach's jealousy and insecurities. We concluded that Leach was jealous because she felt threatened by Macurdy's success and developing reputation within the classical community. Macurdy had earned degrees that had not been available to Leach. Abby Leach felt threatened by the idea of someone that was her equal. She wanted to be the sole leader and have everyone else be the follower. Jealousy can affect one's mind, actions and character in a negative way.

Throughout this study we raised the question of, "would the outcome have been different, had the characters been men?" To some extent, we feel they were limited as to the ways they could have dealt with the conflict. A man at this time could have had the opportunity to walk away from a hostile situation such as this. However these women had a very limited options. There were very few women's colleges at which they could find work. These women also had more invested in Vassar, it was their home.

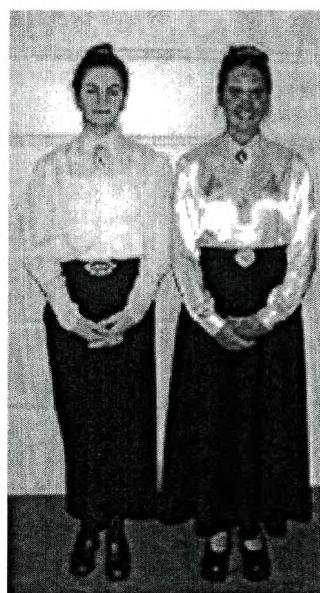
Another interesting point we discovered was

that men at this time saw this conflict as typical of women. The stereotype that women were petty and vindictive was always present. This is evident in a statement by one of the board of trustees who wrote to President Taylor, "I have my own troubles, such as the threatened strike for higher wages on the part of our professors. But I am glad I do not have women to manage."

It was interesting as students to study the conflict of faculty. We saw this aspect of academic life in a whole new way. We came to the realization how similar the situations of students are to faculty. We both deal with jealousies and competition within our social groups. We both have lives outside of the classroom. We also discovered that like students, the peers of faculty play a large part in the decisions they make.

Overall, we found this to be a rare opportunity. We were able to step back into their time and watch the story unfold in a very personal way. We were fortunate to become a part of the conflict as observers and interpreters.

We like to again thank Dr. McManus for giving us the opportunity to be a part of making this valuable story known. We feel very lucky to have had the opportunity to learn from her insights and examples on such a personal level.



Faith Racette and Brooke Bushman

Puerto Rico Conference cont. Gloria Romero, continued from page 4

tribes that color every aspect of their lives. I am a Pipil and they consider themselves Tainos. This makes all the difference to me, because it makes me respect them all the more, knowing that they are not about to relinquish their roots for the Great American Dream. Not to sound condescending, or anything of that caliber, but I would like you to know that I have redrawn my boundaries to encompass the island of Puerto Rico under the title of Latin America.

In the veins of these people runs the blood, sweat and tears of a group that has all too often been subjected to discrimination, abuse, and misrepresentation. Their blood also courses with the hopes, dreams, and aspirations of the proud, strong, and determined group of individuals that call themselves Latin Americans.

By the end of the journey, I gained a deeper appreciation of the plight of the Puerto Rican living with two flags. It is not an easy task to find the right balance between these two worlds, therefore, it is all the more admirable that the Puerto Ricans are putting up such a strong fight to maintain their cultural roots intact. They have not yet been defeated and I believe they never will be as long as they continue to draw strength from each other as a unified whole. For, as the famous saying goes: "United we stand, divided we fall." Isn't that the truth?!

Monika Wargo, continued from page 5

mountains while surrounded by towering trees, exotic flowers, as well as butterflies. The only thing that disappointed me about the rainforest was the fact that I did not see any animals, as I had expected to. However, given the fact that the brush was so thick that it covered everything (I could not even see the ground), this is now understandable. In addition, I think that the time spent in El Yunque was the only time it actually rained on us—but when you are hiking up

mountains in order to make it back to the bus before it pulls away without you, the rain can be very welcoming.

Yet another highlight of the trip was listening to and participating in discussions about politics and economics on the island. It was interesting to hear the perspectives of Puerto Ricans themselves on issues such as statehood and independence. In one workshop I attended, titled *Island Economies*, Dr. Emilio Pantojas of the University of Puerto Rico, summed up the current political status of Puerto Rico in relation to the United States as being similar to one's shoe—that is, it belongs to US, but it is not part of US. I really enjoyed Dr. Pantoja's workshop—in fact, I think it is one of the most interesting that I have attended at any NCHC conference. He described the history of globalization within the Caribbean, noting that globalization is not something that is new—we are simply passing through a certain stage of it. In addition, given that the Caribbean is made up of islands that mostly depend on export economies, the islands are constantly looking outward to sustain themselves. Unfortunately, this too often means that the islands are at the mercy of more powerful nations.

These are just some of the highlights from the trip to Puerto Rico, which I must say was one of the best NCHC conferences I have ever attended. I have not even touched on other aspects of what makes Puerto Rican culture such a rich one, such as food, art, language, and history. What I find remarkable is the fact that I have come to have so much respect and admiration for a people of an island that I only visited for a few days. And as far as I am concerned, Puerto Rico is definitely on my list of places to visit, as I think that more time is needed to gain a better understanding of what Puerto Rico and its people are all about. After all, I would have never thought that a small island could have so much to offer and teach.

Congratulations to the following students who have assumed leadership positions for next year:

Honors Board Representatives

Class of 2001: Marcella Kacmarova
Angela Manning

Class of 2002: Faith Racette
Estela Garcia

Class of 2003: Melissa Cucos
Laura Wiltshire

Honors Committees

Activities: Estela Garcia
Sonsiris Tamayo

Elections: Lisa Mecca

History: Mary Job

Holiday Party: Meghan Toomey

"Myths We Live By": Vera Chernysheva
Christina Cortez
Angela Manning

NCHC: Katie Donovan

Orientation: Sarah Bixler
Melisa Cucos
Ria Morrison

Publicity: Melisa Cucos

Webpage Editor: Mary Job

Liasons

Black History Month: Nadine Alvarez
Erica Pitts

International Students Club: Mary Job

SGA Representatives: Erin Churchill
Crystal Grady

Women's Studies Comm.: Sara Cross
Katie Donovan
Sadia Rehman

Mark Your Calendars:

Dr. Raia has planned an honors leaders orientation meeting for Tuesday, Sept. 5 from 10am to noon.

Creative Corner

My Great Depression

Living in my tattered rags of torn
spirits
I wander at night looking into a
black reflection
I can't seem to find that light that
I'm looking for
Daddy ain't here no more to
watch me sleep
Momma ain't here to complain
about her aches
I shed my thoughts of anger and
wonder in amazement
WHY I HATE YOU!

You cannot even imagine whom I
speak of
No one can
"Estelita no es señorita!"
Is what reruns in my conscious
The term peaceful sleep seems
foreign, like if it was a dream

I am bruised and feel pain from
within and out
Screaming at the top of my lungs
wishing I were heard
I cannot even hear myself
I can't save myself
Until I do, what I'm going through
will never be regained
All I know is I'm a woman and not
a little girl anymore

Love Poem

The word love seems meaningless,
Filled with regret and remorse
I once loved,
Now that love is drained from all its
life
The truths you claimed are nothing
but lies
Your caresses were betrayed
touches given to me

Untitled

I saw you crying
realizing it was myself
looking at the mirror



Poems By Estela Garcia

Reflection

I'm a living embodiment of a life-less beauty,
Who is neither a constructed or air brushed mannequin of your desire
I feel as though the life that I had bestowed is now shedding its pain innocently
My eyes are now seeing what my heart refuses to blindly
I have molded myself into an object
I'm now an artificial creation of what man wants
I stare at myself in the mirror and can no longer find that I am within the reflection
At one time, I was a little girl who came into this world crying out of fear
Now the tears I shed are from the pain of a lost identity that has died both internally and externally
As I was creating a new self, to conform to his ideal, I have killed what I have seen in my own reflection

Simple words,
Empty expressions,
Fulfills the abandoned corners of the mind
A dead stare can cause contemplation,
But the eyes of one can reveal true emotions

Untitled

Free spirited me running to mother's rescue calling daddy home



A Final Note...

Dr. Raia recently spoke at an Honors Convocation at St. Leo's University. Her talk was based around the issue of time. For you seniors that are going to soon be the graduating class of 2000, I am sure time is a huge part of your life at this present moment. School is ending for you and the real world is shouting your names. Here are a few words for you to leave with from that address, that doubles as some great advice:

"Consider this message from the world of work: 'Prioritize! Prioritize! Prioritize!' See it as a reminder to keep reevaluating yourself and your position in terms of what you know. Acknowledge change as a way of life! You are accomplished learners who have wisely elected to acquire a liberal arts education. Rely on it. It is your insurance against fickle market trends. Make your education your real career, and the coming to self-knowledge your vocation. Think of your bachelors degree not as a certificate of completion, but as a mandate to embark on a curriculum of study designed and structured especially by and for you, for the purpose of becoming an authentic person of intellectual depth, who acknowledges divinity and humanity through spirituality and compassion, and who acts out of knowledge and love. Then the work you choose or find yourself in will be but one small part of your education."

A final word to the class of 2000:

Congratulations on 4 years of intense work. Enjoy your graduation day and look to it as a jumping point from where you will start your life. We wish you all the luck and happiness in the world, in all of your endeavors.

Don't Forget:

Please keep in touch with The Honors Program and Femmes d'Esprit. You know how we love to write about our impressive alumnae! :)